

Red Cross Steamer Sunk by Mine

Dover, Nov. 17.—The hospital ship *Anglia*, with about three hundred wounded men on board in addition to the crew, and a number of medical staff, bound from France to Dover, struck a mine in mid-channel today and sank in a very short time. Nearly 100 men, most of them seriously wounded and in their cars, lost their lives. The *Anglia*, which was nearly at the time of the accident, immediately went to the assistance of the *Anglia*, and her boats had just been lowered when she also struck a mine and foundered. All of the crew were rescued. A patrol vessel succeeded in rescuing three hundred of the *Anglia's* passengers and crew, including some nurses. A number of bodies were recovered.

GERMANY TIRES OF WAR

New York, Nov. 10.—Horse Green, an American newspaper man in Berlin writing to a newspaper here, reports that Germany is weary, very weary of the war.

"How long does America think the war will last?"

I said I did not know. This question of the duration of the war is the most frequent I have heard during the past two weeks. It is on everybody's lips; among shopkeepers, you hear it, among waiters and among the middle, and particularly the lower class, among privates and non-commissioned officers, and occasionally even among officers of rank and reputation. A year ago the slogan was "Germany will win"; today "the cry is everywhere, 'How long will this thing last?'"

He declares that the German people are disheartened with the Zeppelin attacks on London. I have been surprised at the frankness with which some of them have spoken of the split in German opinion, in which the foreign office, on one side, backed by many professors and doctors—the intellectual element—is pitted against the naval department. For some time back the former had doubted the value of the latter's submarine aerial policy, not so much on humanitarian grounds, but because it was considered that the damage inflicted on England was not worth the criticism evoked from neutrals.

As one of my informants put it:

"If we could wipe out all of London it would be worth while, in spite of getting into war with the United States. But killing 125 people and damaging Liverpool street station is not enough. After each submarine or aerial attack we have to face the criticism of American newspapers goaded by a clever English press campaign. And yet the American people scarcely hear of atrocities against Germany, such as the English-French raid over Stuttgart, where so many women and children were killed."

Mr. Green tells of a railway journey on a train with soldiers. "They discussed various subjects, and, occasionally, but rather quietly, the war. Last year, under similar circumstances, a carload of German travellers would have filled the air with vitriolic arguments. The Germans of Germany, the treachery of England, the fact that Russia's mobilization started the war, that France would have come through Belgium if Germany had not, that the Fatherland was a united man, would fight till England's back was broken, and so forth and so on.

"A year ago such groups were hustling, bustling, full of fight and full of life; today they are resigned, calm, tolerant. Since then I have listened to the crowds in restaurants, in the streets, and at the barracks at Spandau Hof. And I have talked

ed to many individuals. They discuss the war. They no longer argue, quarrel and rave.

"Today Germany is like a feverish patient to whom the leech has been applied—the war machine whose blood has been drained."

I worked for some time trying to get the proper figures of this blood-letting. I found the answer on the walls and corridors and written in the files of the war office just round the corner from the Neue Wilhelmstrasse. Here the casualty lists have been compiled up to October 2. By the newspapers, which are not much more than official bulletins, there is little said about the extent of losses, and the war office neither calculates nor encourages their calculation. In fact, copying and republishing the lists in German papers is strictly forbidden. But for the benefit of friends and relatives the names of individual dead, wounded, and missing are systematically and honestly posted each day during severe fighting.

The German casualties for the single week ending October 1 were 61,965 1

In other words, 61,965 German citizens, or more than 8,850 a day, have been killed, wounded, or taken prisoner during that seven days of Russian warfare. Since it takes a week or more to compile the figures in Germany, these figures can have no connection with the recent great fight along the western front, while, during the renewed English-French offensive it is said the losses were three times greater than any similar period of the war.

The seven days from September 23 to 30, inclusive, were not above the average of the last two months. I took the figures, because they were the latest and the most easily available. On each column were 120 names, thus: Johann Schmidt, Carl Schneider, Rudolph Hansen, and after each name, slightly wounded, or severely wounded, missing, or dead. On September 30 there were 73 columns of names, making a total of 8,640 losses. On September 29 there were 60 columns, giving 7,200 names; and the losses for the other days of the week, figured in the same way, were as follows: September 28, 9,000; September 27, 8,625; September 26, no list posted; September 25, 11,080; September 24, 8,810; September 23, 8,700.

By far the greatest number of losses were sustained by the Prussians. It is reported that the Prussians alone have lost more than two million men up to this date. In all cases the Prussian, Saxon, and Bavarian losses were grouped separately. In certain instances companies, and even entire regiments were wiped out. A random example is the 3rd company of the 63rd Prussian Reserve Infantry, which lost 246 men. A company's war footing is 250. Of these 84 were killed (killed outright), 49 severely wounded, the remainder lightly wounded. Not a man was captured.

One of the first things you do nowadays in Berlin, after having your passport stamped at police headquarters and getting a bread ticket, (for every man, woman, and child is allowed to consume only so many grammes of flour per day) is to make the Von Hindenburg pilgrimage.

The huge wooden statue, which is almost the size of the Sphinx, is erected at the entrance of the Tiergarten, just past the Brandenburger gate. The circumference of the mantle is 10 yards; the face is two yards long, and the height of the figure and platform is 28 yards. In warring Germany, instead of kissing the pope's toe, you drive a nail into the "Iron Man's" heart. You may tack an iron nail into his leg; for \$2.40, a silver nail into his sword, and for \$12 (all of which goes to the Red Cross) you may drive a golden rivet into the "Iron Man's" heart. The figure stands stanchly, with legs wide apart, hands folded firmly across the belt of the sword, whose point is in the ground, the square, immovable chin lifted high above the folds

of the great coat, and the passionless grey eyes staring down Victory Alley, past and above the statues of Germany's former warriors—Friedrich der Grosse and Friedrich Wilhelm and other German heroes celebrated for the art of killing men.

Almost any afternoon, or, better yet, on a holiday, when there are two brass bands, instead of one, you may see the crowds paying homage; an orderly, quiet, sober, middle-class German crowd not doing much of anything—just drawing a watchful and satisfied satisfaction from being at the old man's feet—perhaps staring for a few minutes at the implacable face, reading the evening bulletins from one of Germany's five fronts, or eating their Schinken and bread and waiting for the drum-major to lift his baton and play, for the fourth consecutive time, "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott."

Each new day that the Russians are driven back the crowd goes out to thank Von Hindenburg; when the news is bad they come to brood in the shadow of Von Hindenburg, and if Von Tirpitz, if Mackensen, and all the rest of the German army, from the proudest general to the grimmest private, were swept off the face of the map, the crowd would nevertheless go out to the statue and say:

"We're still got Von Hindenburg!"

You try to imagine a Broadway crowd spending a half day worshipping a Shafter or a Dewey, or even a Grant. But here you are inclined to watch them, and after a while you are drawn into the spirit of the thing yourself. And so, not because you are pro-Hindenburg, or pro-ally, or pro-anthology—it's merely a case of doing as the Romans do in Rome—you pay your mark, get your nail, climb the scaffold, and drive it just below the warrior's knee.

It is quite remarkable, and typically German, this reverence for a living idol; childish, pagan, fetish, it seemed to me, symbolic, too, of the Teuton worship of war. It is a century or so behind the times—typical of the spirit which makes the nation throw away its millions of lives, and typical also of the spirit which must be crushed if this war of nations is to be as well the war of civilization.

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Disastrous Fire in Steel Plant

South Bethlehem, Pa., Nov. 10.—The fire which virtually destroyed the No. 4 machine shop of the Bethlehem Steel Co. here, today, was finally extinguished this afternoon, after causing damage officially estimated at from \$1,000,000 to \$4,000,000. The company has not yet issued any statement as to the loss.

South Bethlehem, Pa., Nov. 10.—Fire early today almost completely destroyed the No. 4 machine shop of the Bethlehem Steel Co. Only the skeleton of the building is standing. Machinery and war material in the building was said to be worth millions of dollars.

How the fire started is not known. It was discovered in what is known as the boring mill section of the plant among a quantity of oil. The fire spread rapidly and soon the entire building was in flames. The department of the steel plant was called into action, as well as the departments from four neighboring towns, but their efforts were mainly devoted to saving adjoining property.

The value of the guns alone in the shop is said to be several million dollars. There were about 1,000 machines of different kinds in the building running from lathes, shares and drills on down to boring machines. These machines were worth from \$400 to several thousand dollars each, and it is estimated that the value of the machinery was several millions of dollars.

The building was 700 feet long and four stories high. On these floors, 2,250 men were employed in day and night shifts. In the neighborhood of 800 men were at work when the fire started, and so rapidly did it spread that some employees had to make their escape by means of ropes from the different floors.

From workmen it was learned that the fire started among oil near the entrance to the plant. This oil flows in conduits, and is used to gather up flychips which escape in the operation of gun boring. There was only a spark of fire at first when some workmen started to put it out by throwing on water. Then followed a mighty flash and up went a column of smoke and fire, which seemed at once to envelop the whole of the big building.

The fire started on the south side of the building and soon crept its way through the structure on the north side. Floor after floor, loaded with machinery, collapsed and fell to the ground, where it lay in a jumbled mass.

As far as is known, there was no loss of life. The fire probably will burn all day.

Some heavy losses are many of the employees, who lost all their tools, several having as much as \$100 worth in the building.

Recently the burned building was rebuilt and expanded and equipped at a cost said to be three million dollars. It was given over to the manufacture of guns of various calibre for the United States, England, and her allies, and some 800 of these guns were in process of manufacture when the fire broke out.

The fire is said to have started from a short circuit of electric wires, which ignited oil in one of the smaller boring mills.

BAR SOLDIERS FROM ALL LIQUOR STORES

Toronto, Nov. 10.—The Ontario license board has received from Col. Legie, military commander in the 2nd military division, notice that a military order has been issued, directing liquor stores to send "out of bounds" to sold-

iers, and prohibiting them from entering hotel bars, except from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. This order affects all soldiers in the second division, which includes Toronto and thirteen counties.

Chairman Flavell, of the license board, has instructed the secretary of the board to send notice to the liquor inspectors throughout the division of the inauguration of this military order, which will become effective November 11, when there expires a regulation enforced when the soldiers were moving into winter quarters, from the Niagara camp, and which prohibited the men from entering either hotels or liquor stores.

Doffing the khaki will not enable a soldier to evade the order putting all liquor stores and bars until 5 p.m. out of bounds. The first order referred to "soldiers in uniform." This was altered today by the addition of the words, "and out of uniform."

PURE BRED CATTLE BRING BIG PRICES

The record price in Alberta for an eleven months old calf was paid at the combination Short-born sale at the Victoria Park, Calgary, Thursday, when the gross result of the sale of 80 head of pure-breds was \$12,800. Choice stock from the herds of Hon. Duncan Marshall, minister of agriculture, Olds, the C.P.R. department of natural resources, and Yule & Bowes, of Strathmore, was under the hammer, and the popular call to create the record was Haman Lee, Jr., owned by Yule & Bowes. It fetched \$400. Mr. McLennan, of Airdrie, being the purchaser.

The stock was scattered well over the western provinces, among the principal buyers being Leadleys, of Winnipeg; Phillips of Armstrong, B.C.; David McGill of Persons, Alberta; Fred Coburn of Gull Lake, Sask., and M. Kinniburgh, of Airdrie. In all upwards of 80 head were offered, and sold at an average of \$160. Some seven bulls averaged \$261 each.

The next prices in the sale were two bulls at \$300 each. Two heifers at \$270 and \$260 respectively, and one cow at \$230, all contributed by the noted breeders, Yule & Bowes. The C.P.R. sold a five months old bull calf for \$195. S. W. Paisley, Auctioneer, of Lacombe, conducted the selling.

BRITISH MALES OF WAR AGE MUST SHOW PASSPORTS

Liverpool, Nov. 9.—Following the refusal of the White Star liner to ship able-bodied Irish emigrants the American line is considering the subject and will issue a statement soon. The American line has booked 2,000 passengers, mostly men of military age, for the next two sailings of its ships. (The home office has issued an order that made British subjects aged from 19 years upward wishing to book passage must apply to the foreign office for passports. The order is effective immediately.)

It was stated in a protest meeting in Liverpool today that passage money for Irish emigrants was being paid by German-Americans, Germans and German sympathizers.

THREE THOUSAND CHAUFFEURS WANTED

Montreal, Nov. 10.—Three thousand chauffeurs is the contribution from Canada to the imperial forces at the front. Brig-Gen. Wilson, commandant in the Montreal district, has received notification from Ottawa that the master general of the Canadian army, that the call has come from the British war office for 3,000 mechanical transport drivers for service with the imperial forces during the day in Paris, was communicated simultaneously to all the capitals of the entente nations.

London, Nov. 11.—A strong intimation of compulsion at an early date is contained in a statement tonight by the Earl of Derby, director of recruiting. This statement, it is made, Lord Derby declares, with the authority of the prime minister. It says:

"If young men medically fit and not indispensable in any business of national importance or any business conducted for the general good of the community, do not come forward voluntarily before November 30, the government will, after that date, take the necessary steps to redress the shortage."

On the date referred to, Premier Asquith announced in the house of commons that if young men did not come forward voluntarily and enlist "other compulsory means would be taken before married men were called upon to fill their engagement to serve."

Lord Derby adds: "Whether a man is indispensable or not to his business will be decided not by the man or his employer, but by competent authorities and tribunals which are being set up to consider such cases."

Outlook in Balkans is Black

Paris, Nov. 17.—A Havas dispatch from Marseilles says the government has ordered the port authorities to accept no further shipments of merchandise destined for Greece.

London, Nov. 17.—Both the military and diplomatic situations of the entente allies in the Balkans are disquieting, if not critical, a fact which doubtless led to the visit of the British prime minister Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George and A. J. Balfour to Paris for a conference with the French cabinet and General Joffre. The Serbian army under General Putnik, who is operating in the north, is now encompassed on every side but one, and being cut off from the south by the Bulgarian advance beyond Tetovo, must depend on the roads through Montenegro and Albania for any supplies from the sea. In the south the Serbian position is almost as bad. The success of the Bulgarian flanking attack on Babuna Pass and their advance from Velea have prevented the hopes for junction of the Serbian and French forces. This leaves the Serbians only two lines of retreat, one into Albania, where they may be harassed by unfriendly tribes, and the other across the Greek border, where they are in danger of being disarmed and interned. It is to prevent the latter eventuality that the entente powers are putting forth every effort.

LORD DERBY GIVES STRONG INTIMATION OF CONSCRIPTION

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ALLIES FURNISH LOAN OF £1,600,000 TO THE GREEK GOVT.

London, Nov. 11.—The loan of £1,600,000 from Great Britain, France, and Russia, to Greece, has been concluded and the money is now at the disposal of the Hellenic government.

The inaugural declaration by the new government of Premier Skouloudis concerning the continued neutrality of Greece and her good will toward the allies, which was made public yesterday in Paris, was communicated simultaneously to all the capitals of the entente nations.

The Lacombe Guardian

F. H. SCHOOLEY, PROPRIETOR

THE BLACK DIAMOND OIL WELL FAKES

Calgary, Friday, Nov. 12.—The story of the "salting" of the Black Diamond well, matter-of-fact language how this full of oil, gasoline, and distillate were dumped into the well on the morning of May 7, 1914; how water was poured in on top of these, and the mixture churned up and down by the drill, and then how a telephone message was sent into town, and how Ald. Freeze and Crandall were brought down post-haste by George E. Buck to view the wonder.

Not once, but twice, according to the witness, was the well "salted." The second occasion was shortly after the first, and was for the benefit of Ald. Crandall, then an official of the Black Diamond Oilfields, Ltd., who came down to measure the strike.

Minne told his story in such a frank, convincing manner that it produced a great impression upon those who heard it. It was a dramatic tale and would make a corking good moving picture scenario. All that was needed was the camera man and the director to transfer the pictures to the films. All the auxiliary "stuff" was there. The derricks in the grey of the dawn. The conspirators furtively pouring in the "dope." The mad rush of the automobiles with aldermen and newspaper reporters from town; the excitement in the city following the announcement of the strike.

Then there was the corroborative story told by Major Wm. Gillespie, who described how Mr. Buck gathered his office force together on the day before to outline a "scheme" which he had originated during the night watches of the night, and who said that he had suspected that all was not well, and had made a dash for the basement, until the conference was over, but who had nevertheless, going up to Mr. Buck's garage, taken the tins of gasoline aboard the car, and then, by devious ways and in the dusk of evening, accompanied by the well, where the stuff was placed in the derrick.

The whole thing was melodramatic to a degree, and as an illuminating and thrilling chapter in the great oil excitement of last year.

Minne, who says that he lives at Spring Creek, Ozotoka, a few miles from Black Diamond, said that on the morning of May 7, Head Driller J. W. Hayes came to him where he was working in the boiler-room, and told him that "there was to be a little stunt pulled off."

"I told him to mark me down as 'X.' I was out of it," the witness declared.

"He assured me that there would be no trouble, that Mr. Buck would make it quite all right, and would fix it up so that no one would know anything about it. It was to be all fine and dandy."

"What did he mean by that?" asked Assistant Crown Prosecutor Shaw.

"He gave me to understand that Mr. Tyrrell (the tool dresser) was going to salt the well."

The witness said that when he went to the derrick to put on his overalls he noticed several cans standing about. There were two cans of gasoline, one round can that apparently held about two gallons, coming to a peak, and one "polarine" can.

He said that they were not there the night before, and he had no idea how they came there.

The witness' scruples were evidently quite overcome by this time, because the next proceeding was for him, and Tyrrell lowered the baler into the well until its mouth was on a level with the floor of the derrick. The baler was then filled with gasoline and oil, about half the stuff in the various cans being used up in the process.

"What was in the round can?" asked Mr. Shaw.

"It contained crude oil, stuff that is used for sheep dipping. It was a brownish color," replied Minne.

The "polarine" can, he was told, contained distillate. The other two were filled with gasoline.

"We kicked over the engine and lowered the baler to the bottom," said the witness.

The baler filled with the mixture of "dope" was then "dumped" at the bottom of the hole. But this knowledge being in the valve, so that it would not close again after striking the bottom, so that the contents were emptied into the hole.

The witness estimated that the quantity of "dope" used in the salting operation was about 10 gallons. After emptying it the baler was pulled up again, filled with water and the water dumped on top of the oil.

"What happened after that?"

"Mr. Hayes came in and took the matter out of my hands. I went back to my own duties. Hayes did not come into the derrick until it was all done. After that tools were lowered and drilling started again."

The witness said that after the salting the tools were covered with oil. He had never, to the best of his knowledge, seen oil in the well before.

A little later a baleful of mixed water and oil was brought up and emptied into the sluice box. Then another was dumped into a barrel. Hayes and the witness were present when this was done. The cans were taken back to the engine room and left there until the remaining oil and gas were used again on another occasion.

The following day, May 8, Alderman Freeze and Crandall and another man, who the witness understood to be a newspaper reporter, came out to the well in an automobile. Buck was in charge of the party and showed them around. He heard Buck ask Ald. Freeze, what he thought of it. He did not catch the reply.

Neither Mr. Fletcher nor Major Gillespie were there.

The second occasion on which the well was salted, according to the witness, was two or three days after the first. Hodson, the Black Diamond chaplain, came out in a hurry and met Driller Hayes, who went away with him. They returned shortly afterward and Hayes told the witness that Ald. Crandall was coming down to measure the well, and if the oil had all disappeared the stunt would have to be pulled off all over again.

Accordingly Tyrrell and the witness proceeded to dump in the rest of the oil in the same manner and using the same materials as before.

Shortly after the job was finished Ald. Crandall and Major Gillespie arrived and measured the well, using the same line. Mr. Crandall checked the measurement, and the well was found to be 1500 feet deep.

The tools were brought up covered with oil, and Ald. Crandall saw them.

"Was he glad to see it?" asked Mr. Shaw.

"I couldn't say," answered the witness. "The baler was run down and brought up filled with the same substance it had on the first time."

After that incident the drilling proceeded as before.

"Did you ever discover oil again?"

"No sir."

"Was this delightful little scheme worked for any one else?"

"Not to my knowledge."

"Was the Duke of Connaught there?"

"No, it was not worked for him."

BUCK SENT UP TO HIGHER COURT

Calgary, Nov. 17.—Police Magistrate Davidson yesterday morning held George E. Buck, president of the Black Diamond Oil company for the higher court on the three charges of conspiracy respecting the alleged "salting" of the well last year.

Harold Hodson, Buck's chauffeur testified that, in response to inquiry by Buck, he had told him where crude oil could be purchased at 45 cents a gallon. He did not, however, get out of himself.

On May 21, he said that Norman Fletcher took a gunny sack wrapped about something that looked like a four gallon can into the car, which then ran down to the well. At the well he saw the can.

On another occasion on Buck's instructions, he brought down a

AN APPEAL

During the next two or three weeks every farmer throughout the Lacombe District will be canvassed for a subscription to the Canadian Patriotic Fund. The towns are all being canvassed now, and the committees will extend the work into the country districts within a few days. A little explanation in advance will make it possible for the farmers to give their contributions with the earnest consideration that it deserves so that they may decide before they are called upon what their contributions ought to be.

This is not a charity appeal. It is a plain matter of duty that confronts every citizen of this country. No British subject can possibly escape his accepted responsibility to support the Empire to which he has sworn allegiance. The village and town people have responded more generously than any one dared to hope. It now remains for the farmers to show equal generosity and an equal appreciation of the value of British institutions and British history.

The farmers are recognized as the most prosperous class of people in Canada today. Town and city people are burdened with taxes and their property has shrunk to a mere fraction of its former value. In spite of everything town and city folks have subscribed with a generosity that is both admirable and astonishing. If the farmers of the Lacombe constituency do their duty in the way that they can well afford to do it we shall exceed the amount which we set out to raise by a wide margin. If they fail we may still reach the amount, but it will be raised almost entirely in the towns, and the wealthiest and most numerous class in our community will have failed in the supreme test. The farmers cannot afford to let this opportunity pass so far apart and, as winter is upon us, a thorough house-to-house canvass will be very difficult, but every farmer who desires to stand four square with his fellowmen and to discharge the most sacred duty that he has ever been asked to perform will not wait to be canvassed, but will volunteer his assistance to an extent that leaves some relation to his prosperity and to the liberty and security he has enjoyed under the British flag.

Make no mistake. This is not mere hot air. The eyes of every man in this country today are resting upon the shirkers wherever they are. This fund might be raised by taxation, but the system of voluntary contributions has been preferred. That system is on trial. Every man has the opportunity of proving his citizenship, and the man who is known to be prosperous and who crawls out, whether he lives in town or country, will find it difficult to retain the respect and confidence of his fellowmen.

bundle that looked like a similar

On still another occasion he conveyed verbal orders from Buck to the drillers to "grease the sluice box."

A BIT OF GERMAN HUMOR

(New York World)

They need something to barten them up a bit and excite their risibles in London, and so we respectfully suggest that the dispatch from the World's Berlin correspondent describing a visit to the German fleet be widely distributed in England.

"Do you think the British fleet will ever come out?" is the question that everybody on board, "from coal-passers to the highest officers, sailors of the correspondent. The German fleet, it appears, is waiting for a challenge. Why does not Great Britain "throw the glove in the naval arena for Germany to pick up?"

The ships on which this delightful segment of German public opinion was found are as snug as bugs in a rug under the guns of Wilhelmshaven. They are protected by mainland fortifications, by mines in the sea, and by the outlying fortress of Heligoland. They are as secure as cave-dwellers, and designedly so.

Many things have happened while these ships have held this comfortable berth. The British fleet has come out sufficiently to control the seven seas. Aside from a few submarines there is not a German ship afloat anywhere except in neutral harbors and in heavily protected German waters. Men-of-war and merchantmen alike have disappeared, while British flags, commercial and naval, are seen as frequently as in peace in every corner. With nearly all its colonies in the hands of the enemy and its great high-sea fleet held helplessly a prisoner in its own harbors, Germany may fairly be asked what kind of comic opera challenge it is awaiting.

PRUSSIAN LOSS TO NOV. 2

TOTALS 2,099,454

Rotterdam, Nov. 10.—Ten more Prussian casualty lists have been published, covering the period from Oct. 2 to Nov. 2, inclusive. In this period the Prussian losses amounted to 78,376, or, roughly, 21,000 more than in the previous ten lists published.

The Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant suggests that the increase in casualties justifies the supposition that these lists are losses suffered during the great Allied offensive. The paper adds that the total Prussian losses alone amount to 2,099,454. In

addition 230 Bavarian, 280 Sax-

on, and 293 Wurtemberg lists have been published, along with the naval lists of 55. The Courant further publishes a table giving the Prussian losses since the middle of July, from which it is seen that in the last three and a half months they lost 503,190 men from all causes.

WILL NOT REPLY TO ALL CRITICISM

London, Nov. 11.—During the course of debate in the House of Commons today A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, laid down the principle that he would not reply to criticisms on the conduct of the war, on the ground that "all criticism of the conduct of the war must, until after the war is over, and indeed long after, be a matter almost impossible to deal with, because the facts are not and cannot be known."

TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY STORIES

And every story a good one. They are entertaining, but that is not all you can say about them. You know there is hardly a periodical published that is not full of time-wasting stories, but not a single story in The Youth's Companion is a time waster. Take the stories of C. A. Stephens. It would be hard to pick out one from which you cannot learn something useful and yet entertaining.

Some of The Companion stories refresh your knowledge of geography; some tell you the mysteries of chemistry, some reveal the secrets of forestry and of general farming. They cover a wide range. They are chosen with an eye to the possible likings of every member of a Companion family—stories of vigorous action and stirring adventure for boys; stories of college life and domestic vicissitudes for girls; stories that range all the way from sheer drollery to deep seriousness for men and women. There are no stories quite like those in The Companion.

If you are not familiar with The Companion as it is today, let us send you sample copies and the Forecast for 1916.

New subscribers who send \$2.25 for 1916 will receive free a copy of The Companion Home Calendar for 1916, in addition to all the remaining 1916 issues from the time the subscription is received.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION Boston, Mass.

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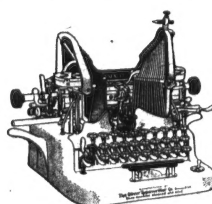
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Watch this space for further reasons.

F. H. SCHOOLEY, Agent, Lacombe

STRATHCONA HORSE ACTING AS FLYING COLUMN IN FRANCE

London, Nov. 4.—A western Canadian, serving in the Strathcona's Horse, says: "There was some talk of our brigade being made into a flying column. We are certainly doing the flying column act to perfection. We are now moving about, frequently in excellent style. Yesterday we went out on a working party and dug trenches all day. Happily we are rid for the moment of rats and mice. It is not pleasant to be awakened up at night by rats and mice running all over you."

"Just where we are on the Canadian line, there is a lot of shelling going on Wednesday. We had a splendid spectacle of aeroplanes under shell fire. One of our machines seemed inevitably about to be overwhelmed. The Germans fired 16 shots, all seemingly at the same moment. One aeroplane appeared right in the middle of the fusillade, but came through unharmed. We have also had trench incidents. One day recently two of our fellows were hit when between our own and the German trenches. One got back, but the other, Blake, of 'B' Squadron, was missing."

"Four different men went out for him, but got hit. The night before last, however, another search party found the body of Blake. He was badly hit. He had managed to crawl away from the spot where he fell. When the body was found it appeared he had taken off his coat and shirt, cut the sleeves up and dressed his own wounds. His body was only 40 yards from the German trenches. One German at least paid the price that night, for two men of 'B' Squadron, who were on the lookout at the time, saw through the periscope a German standing up to throw a bomb at the wounded man. He told his Canadian mate, who had his rifle ready, and Mr. German was shot dead. The bombing of wounded whenever they get a chance is a favorite amusement of the Germans."

A wounded Winnipegger, a captain in the 27th battalion, now in a London hospital, pays special tribute to the excellence of the hospital arrangements. He says: "From the time I was hit until I reached the hospital in London the kindly attention I received on all hands made the greatest impression on me. The organization seems perfect, and the nurses are wonderful. I can not say too much in admiration of the way in which our boys are brought in."

HUNS STRIP RUSSIAN PEOPLE OF ALL CLOTHING AND BOOTS

Petrograd, Oct. 31.—The following official statement was given out by the Russian war office last night:

"There is nothing important to report on the whole front from the Gulf of Riga to the Pripiet."

"There were some operations by our light and heavy artillery in the districts of Jacobstadt and Divinsk and against the village of Wirvintzey west of Lake Obol."

"An attempt by the Germans to advance on the left bank of the Divina, northeast of Jacobstadt, was easily repulsed. The Germans are stripping the population of clothing and boots, which they are sending to Vilna."

KELLY BURNED ALL THE PAPERS ON LAW COURTS

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 7.—Early in October, apparently almost directly after the government appointed a commission to investigate the law courts contracts, Maurice Kelly, son of Thos. Kelly, though not a member of the firm of Thomas Kelly & Sons, removed from the firm's office most of the documents relating to the connection of Thomas Kelly & Sons with the construction of the law courts. This was revealed today in the evidence before Commissioner Mathers of the Royal Commission, of Roy L. Worthington, estimator for the Kelly firm. Some of the documents were burned and others were taken across the line.

Mr. Worthington said that he was out of the city about the end of September, and when he returned he was told that the papers dealing with the law courts had been removed. Maurice Kelly later told him he had taken them and burned some and had taken others to Detroit, Minn. Maurice Kelly said further that he had taken the papers so that none would be found in the event of another search such as instituted by the Crown for papers relating to the parliament buildings contract.

"So far as Thomas Kelly & Sons are concerned it looks as though there were some reasons for the removal of these documents," said Mr. Pitblado. "Sufficient cogent reason," agreed the commissioner.

Mr. Pitblado stated he had already sent for Maurice Kelly, who was in the city at noon, and that he would have him give evidence.

Further examination of Mr. Worthington revealed nothing of a spectacular nature.

ASK GOVERNMENT TO DEAL MORE STRICTLY WITH ARMY DESERTERS

Ottawa, Nov. 5.—A resolution has been passed by the executive committee of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, recommending that the government, take more drastic action in respect to the punishment of deserters, and that women's hospital and regimental units now being mobilized be held responsible for the accuracy of casualties returns.

The national executive further passed a resolution advising all branches throughout Canada to refuse to render assistance to the dependents of soldiers when they should learn that these men had previously belonged to a regiment from which they had deserted, or had been dismissed for cause other than unavoidable illness.

THIS WOULD ASSIST IN RECRUITING WORK

London, Nov. 4.—The suggestion was made in the house of commons today by Sir Alfred Mond that legislation be enacted to suspend during the war payment of rent, insurance premiums, interest on mortgages and similar obligations of men who join the army. Sir Alfred, whose suggestion was recognized with favor, said that these charges were the millstones around the necks of many men who, except for them, would be glad to enlist.

Premier Asquith said the government fully recognized the importance of the problem and had promised to consider the suggestion carefully.

VALOR OF CANADIANS IMPRESSES PONTIFF

London, Nov. 5.—Monsieur Burke, major and chaplain of the Canadian forces, now visiting in London, returns to Flanders on Saturday. He tells his representative that during his recent visit to Rome he was received by the Pope, who, while not expressing any view in favor of either group of belligerents, said he had read with the sincerest admiration of the chivalrous way in which the Canadians had fought in Flanders.

Lieutenant H. A. Pratt Pierce, Winnipeg, 27th battalion, is now visiting in London after his discharge from the hospital at Lincoln, where he was sent suffering from slight gunshot wounds in the arm and back.

GRENFELL TO GO TO EUROPEAN FRONT

Battle Creek, Mich., Nov. 5.—Dr. Wilfrid T. Grenfell, the Pastor of Labrador, who is here attending the medical missionary conference, announced today that he will soon leave with the Hamilton unit of Red Cross workers for active service in France. Dr. Grenfell will spend his missionary furlough working in some French or British hospital. He spoke here today on his work in Labrador to a large audience of missionaries and Red Cross workers from all over the world.

NELLIE MCCLUNG ON THE HAWKES CASE

When Carrie Davis, in Toronto, was acquitted of the charge of murder, it marked an epoch in the extension of the unwritten law to women. Carrie Davis had undoubtedly killed the man, but the jury considered that she had good reason for so doing. She did it in defence of her honor.

Then came the case of the Smith-Bradley shooting at Peace River Crossing, where wounded affection and alienation of his wife was considered sufficient reason for one man's shooting of another. It was a popular verdict, too; an acquittal usually is. The lawyer's dramatic appeal, setting out the injured husband, makes the appeal to humanity, and the general feeling was that Ralph Smith got what was coming to him.

Now comes the case of Mrs. Jennie Hawkes, who shot and killed the woman who alienated her husband's affection. It seems from newspaper accounts, to have been a case of great aggravation. Mr. Hawkes brought his new love right into his home and paraded his affection for her before his wife's eyes, threatening her with immediate death if she objected. She had the constant insult of the hated woman's presence. She also overheard the plot to get rid of her, quietly and unobtrusively by putting her in an asylum, and also the setting aside of the other woman's husband, in a general clean up of all obstacles.

She says she did not know what she was doing. Rage and jealousy took possession of her, and her hatred of the other woman drove her to commit the crime.

The jury brought in a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation of mercy, but the judge decided to act only on the verdict, and use his own judgment as to whether or not he would sentence her to be hanged. What about that "divine romantic rage" which got Bradley safely through and furnished a motive for his crime which which exonerated him from blame. Why does it not come into the case of Jennie Hawkes?

If ever a human being had reason for desperate action, surely she had. Her home was invaded, her honor insulted, her life, and without the slightest attempt at concealment. There was no law to protect her, for a man may bring his mistress into his home, and so long as she does not show physical cruelty to his wife, she need not appeal to the law. Mental cruelty, outraged affection, or insult does not count. He has to bleed her nose or black her eye before the law judges him guilty of an offence, although outraged affection, when suffered by a man, is recognized in the unwritten law as a sufficient motive for murder.

Jennie Hawkes took the law into her own hands. Mad with rage, she shot the woman who had broken her heart and violated her home, and the judge says she must die!

The inference is that a woman has no recourse in a case of this kind. She must remember that if she is her husband's chattel, and if he decides that he is tired of her and wants another, she must bow in submission. No doubt it has been her own fault, she should have made herself more attractive.

The unwritten law, according to this judge, does not apply to women and he proposes to make an example of Jennie Hawkes, and in this sentence of death he hands a grave and solemn warning to all married women, to remember that they must not get notions in their heads that they have any exclusive right to their husband's affection, and the power to enforce it.

If a man wishes to withdraw his affection from his wife and bestow it on another woman, this judge, at least, has done his best to see that it can be done without any unpleasantness to the man or the second lady. He will not tolerate the wife making a row about it. She has to remember her place.

Now, it will be interesting to see whether the women of Canada will submit quietly to this ruling.

The judge has shown himself to be a chivalrous protector of his own sex. I wonder if there isn't a little bit of chivalry among women, too, that will show itself at this time.

should receive a pardon on the ground that she is a woman. If women commit crimes they should (and do) receive the full penalty, but as a human being she is entitled to a square deal. The man who caused the trouble, who violated the marriage vow, who broke her heart and caused a peaceful woman to become so embittered and enraged as to commit murder, goes free! He killed her soul, but the law says she must die.

DE MAUPASSANT ON WAR

One man who diagnosed war as it was, and was not afraid to express his mind was Guy de Maupassant, the brilliant, eccentric French writer of the last generation.

Maupassant marvelled that people did not rise in rebellion against their government at the word "war." He quoted a clever artist in such matters, a slaughtering genius, M. de Maupassant, who noted that the nature of a great general, Gallicised as replying thus to an address by some peace delegates: "War is holy and of divine institutions; it is one of the sacred laws of nature; it keeps alive in men all the great and noble sentiments, honor, disinterestedness, virtue, courage; in one word it prevents them from falling into the most hideous materialism."

Here we have the Germanic doctrine of 1870, which 45 years does not seem to have changed.

Let us read De Maupassant's answer to it.

To collect a herd of some 500,000 men, march day and night without respite, to think of nothing, learn, read nothing, be of no earthly use to anyone, not with dirt, he down in mire, like the British in continual looting, pillage towns, burn villages, ruin nations; then meeting another agglomeration of human flesh, rush upon it, shed lakes of blood, cover plains with mounds of flesh mingled with muddy and bloody earth; pile up heaps of slain; have arms and legs blown off, brains scattered without benefit to anyone, and perish at the corner of some field while your old parents, your wife and children are dying of hunger; that is what is called not falling into the most hideous materialism!"

BRITAIN'S WEALTH

It is only since Britain came to America to borrow money that the world has begun to think of the enormous wealth of Great Britain.

The estimated wealth of the British people in 1914 was about \$85,000,000,000. The present debt, which approximates \$10,000,000,000, including the present issue of \$500,000,000, represents less than 12 per cent. of the estimated present wealth of the British people, whereas the national debt in 1816 amounted to 30 per cent. of their estimated wealth. At that time the interest on this loan of \$500,000,000 equals only one-fifth of one per cent. of the total estimated income of the British people in 1914.

Since the establishment of the national debt of Great Britain two hundred years ago, it has been the policy of the British government to pay out of income, in times of peace, not only the ordinary and extraordinary expenditures, but also large amounts in the reduction of the public debt. At the close of the Napoleonic wars in 1816 the British government immediately went to work on the problem of reducing the debt, and although in the course of the succeeding century additional debt was incurred in times of special emergency, the government's policy resulted in reducing the debt 20 per cent. by 1914.

During the ten years ended March 31, 1914, the government reduced the public debt over \$430,000,000 out of ordinary income. Whereas interest on the national debt consumed 11 per cent. of the people's estimated income in 1816, in 1914 interest on the debt amounted to only three-tenths of one per cent. of the estimated income of the British people.

The amount of British capital

annually invested abroad in regard to the year 1913, was estimated at \$800,000,000; and the total foreign and colonial investments are estimated at \$17,500,000,000, representing about 20 per cent. of the accumulated wealth of Great Britain. The estimated income of the British people from foreign and colonial investments is approximately \$900,000,000 annually, or about thirty-six times the \$25,000,000,000 interest charge on this, the only external debt of Great Britain. The estimated total annual income of the people of Great Britain increased from \$1,500,000,000 in 1816 to \$12,000,000,000 in 1914, an eight-fold increase. On the basis of its present income, Great Britain could support, with no greater burden on the people than was successfully carried during the Napoleonic wars, a national debt of \$40,000,000,000 bearing interest at 5 per cent.

HENS WELL HOUSED WILL LAY ALL WINTER

Possibly no subject in connection with poultry husbandry has been more neglected by farmers generally than that of poultry-house construction, although few subjects are more important. The trouble is that most farmers have one of the old-fashioned hen-houses and the feeling is prevalent that to spend money on new fangled ideas would be to put it mildly, a most uncertain investment.

The fact remains, however, that many of these old houses are entirely unsuited for the purpose for which they are intended and though fowls may live a day or even lay in them, no hen can be expected to do her best in unsanitary and uncomfortable surroundings. Nor is there any necessity for this undesirable state of affairs to continue, since remodelling would occupy but little time while the expense is merely nominal.

It is not the intention, at the present time, to attempt to cover this important subject in its entirety, but merely to point out in a general way what to aim for, and what to avoid, when remodelling an old hen-house or constructing a new one.

In the first place, as to size. If constructing a new house, it will be necessary to determine the size of the flock which it is intended to keep and build the house accordingly. In the case of an old house, the process must, of course, be reversed, and the size of the flock made to conform to that of the house. Above all things, don't overcrowd. It is well to allow, at the least, four square feet of floor space for each bird, while in the case of large birds, such as Brahmas or Langshans, especially if kept in small flocks, six square feet per bird is not by any means too much in connection with overcrowding. "Safety First" is a good motto.

Undoubtedly the best floor is a cement one. The old earth floor is excellent so long as it can be kept sweet, but this is very difficult of accomplishment, and, moreover, when the time comes in removing the sour earth and refilling once or twice a year is taken into account, it is well to remember that a high and dry location, on sandy soil, and with a southern exposure, would be most likely to ensure that your house would be dry and sanitary, no matter how the house should be so arranged as to admit the greatest amount of sunshine possible.

As to the rest of it, so much depends upon other local conditions that it is impossible to devise any one best method of obtaining the end desired. It should be remembered, however, that what is principally necessary in all hen-houses is adequate ventilation without draught. Formerly ventilation was sacrificed to warmth, the whole building being sealed up so closely that, as of course is inevitable in such cases, the birds had to breathe the same air, with all its impurities, time and again, to say nothing of the equally disastrous

effect that the place became damp. Birds kept in such a house all winter will almost surely suffer from roup, and other ailments, while those more hardy birds which manage to avoid actual illness, will never do satisfactorily in the way of egg production.

If the house is deep enough to prevent snow from blowing in on the roosts, it is best, in the opinion of the writer, to leave the entire front out altogether and at all times. If, however, the house is not sufficiently deep for that, the next best contrivance is to be certain front. Ordinary cotton, or thin canvas, tacked across the open front, or where in other circumstances the window would be, is all that is necessary.

If for any reason neither of these plans is practicable, adequate ventilation must be provided otherwise. A good large ventilator may be placed in the roof, the ceiling being packed with straw to prevent a draught, the hens will take an everlasting delight in filling the egg-baskets, even though the temperature be below zero.

To be healthy, vigorous, profit-earning hens, the birds must be kept in houses giving room for plenty of exercise, admitting plenty of sunshine, any amount of pure fresh air, free from draughts, and dry. With proper feeding, and in such a house, the hens will take an everlasting delight in filling the egg-baskets, even though the temperature be below zero.

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We are showing a beautiful range of Furs, in Muffs and Stoles, such as mink, marmot and other different lines, at special prices.

Ladies' Rat Coats

We wish to draw your attention to our Rat Coats. These coats are well lined and good fitting, at special prices. Prices are from.....\$50. \$75. \$95.



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20 Ladies' Coats, made of good heavy material, extra warm for cold weather, perfect fitting, a good variety of shades, on sale at half price.

Regular \$12.50, on sale.....	\$6.25
" 14.00 ".....	7.00
" 15.00 ".....	7.50
" 16.50 ".....	8.25
" 18.00 ".....	9.00
" 20.00 ".....	10.00
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We have a complete range of the famous Watson's underwear, separate or combination, prices from 35c to \$3.50

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Although prices of all lines of men's and boy's clothing and furnishings have advanced, we still have a very complete stock at the old prices:

Men's Tweed Ulsters at.....	\$8.00 to \$18.00
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Red Label.....	\$1.50	Blue Label.....	\$1.75
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Cheaper lines from \$1.00 per garment and all wool

We bought very heavily on rubber and felt footwear and our sizes are still unbroken.

If you expect to buy clothing you should take advantage of the present low prices, as prices must advance soon.

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Do not forget our Grocery Department. It always has something special to offer. Ogilvie's Golden Rod Flour, made from last year wheat, 98 lb sack \$2.75; 500 lb lots @ \$2.70. Hams per lb 18c. 10 lbs Dried Peaches for \$1.00. 10 lbs Prunes for \$1.00. Apples per box \$1.75 and \$2.00. Special bargains in Christmas Raisins, Peels, Dates Figs, etc.

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Items of Interest Locally

Mrs. Nickerson will receive the first Tuesday in each month.

Mrs. D. Calder will receive on the first Tuesday of each month.

The skating rink will receive its first flooding of the season this week.

E. A. Kriese and family returned on Tuesday from an extended visit to their old home in the States.

The Methodist Sunday School purpose holding their Christmas Tree Entertainment on Thursday, December 23rd.

Mrs. A. R. Smith, of Spokane, is here for a two weeks' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Shearer.

The annual meeting of Lacombe Agricultural Society will be held in the town hall on Wednesday, December 1, at 2 p. m.

Word comes from Clive that on Wednesday afternoon Dr. F. W. Gokoy, V. S., formerly located at Lacombe, suicided by shooting himself through the head.

Special low prices for this month on colars, buggy whips, stags, and snags. They must be closed out to make room. - L. Peterka, opposite Titworth's furniture store.

Dr. Sharpe will address the Epworth League meeting at the Methodist Church next Monday evening on "The Home and Nation Building." All are made welcome.

The young daughter of Mr. Herb. Watt had the misfortune to break an arm on Monday. She was on her way to school and shipped on the sidewalk. She is getting along nicely.

While winding up his car at Rimby this week, Mr. Kenny had the misfortune to have his arm broken by back-fire. He had the injured member set, and is now progressing favorably.

James McCoig, of Edmonton, addressed a meeting of sheepmen in the Town Hall on Monday evening. His address was most interesting and instructive, and was greatly enjoyed by those present.

The Dixie Jubilee Singers will be at the Comet next Tuesday evening. Don't miss this musical treat, as this is the greatest colored concert company in the world, and is well-known to Lacombe audiences.

The dance given in the Comet theatre by the ladies of Lacombe Women's Institute in aid of the Red Cross fund, was a very enjoyable affair. There were about forty-five couples in attendance, and while the expense would be considerable, yet it will net the fund several dollars.

The collectors in town for the Patriotic Society have completed their work, and we are pleased to say they have overreached the mark set for the town. With few exceptions everyone responded to the extent of their ability. The exceptions are well known to our citizens, and will be remembered.

Unable to withstand the call of the Empire any longer, W. A. Shields, manager of the Merchants Bank, here, has applied for and received leave of absence until the end of the war, a post has volunteered for active ser-

vice overseas. Mr. Shields expects to enter the service next month.

RED CROSS NOTES

The Red Cross Society hereby acknowledges the sum of \$5.50 from the Ladies Aid of Fairview; also \$6.60 from the sale of Red Cross buttons, both amounts being handed in by Mrs. Flewelling.

Mrs. Teit has received acknowledgement from Miss Plakban, Hon. Secretary of the Alberta Provincial Branch of the Red Cross Society, Calgary, of the sum of \$100 from the Lacombe Branch.

Mrs. Day represented the Lacombe Branch at the annual

meeting of the Red Cross Society in Calgary. She very kindly paid all her own expenses, and saved the Society that outlay.

A bale of goods was sent to Calgary by the local Red Cross Society on Nov. 8th, and contained literature, 5 feather pillows, 22 pairs socks, 1 muffler, and 2 pillow cases.

DIXIE JUBILEE CONCERT COMPANY

The above Company, the best aggregation of colored talent in the world, will give an entertainment in the Comet Theatre on Tuesday evening next, Nov.

23rd. This company has been in Lacombe on several occasions, and never failed to draw good houses.

MARRIED

MUZZY-STAROSZIH.-At the Methodist Parsonage, on Friday, Nov. 12, by the Rev. E. T. Scragg, Charles Edward Muzzy, of Lorain, Sask., to Emma Staroszh, of La Vesta, Alta.

TENNIS-JEGLUM.-At Lacombe on Wednesday, Nov. 10th, by the Rev. M. White, B.D., Leo Howard Tennis, of Hardisty, to Miss Blanche Irene Jeglum, of Clive.

Repair Work

We do all kinds of repair work—promptly, accurately, reasonably.

If you break a lens, bring the broken parts to us, and we'll make an absolutely accurate match.

We mend broken frames or can fit your old lenses in new style frames or supply the proper clasp or nose guard to hold your glasses on with security and perfect comfort.

Let us take care of all your glass needs and troubles.

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Moose Moccasins
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